NEWS RELEASE

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Carol A. Murray, Commissioner

For Immediate Release

August 25, 2004

Contacts: Peter Stamnas Bridge Design (603) 271-2731 Bill Boynton

Public Information Office

(603) 271-6495

"FAST TRACK" BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT IN EPPING NEW BRIDGE BEING CONSTRUCTED IN LESS THAN TWO WEEKS

An innovative New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) bridge replacement project that would normally take four to six months to build may be completed in seven to ten days if everything goes as planned. The project is located in Epping on Mill Street over the Lamprey River.

Bridge assembly for the rapid bridge replacement project began on August 19, 2004. This fast track project is using pre-cast, pre-stressed High Performance Concrete (HPC) components as a way of lessening traffic delays and improving worker safety.

"In many ways it's really like a giant erector set," says Senior Project Engineer Peter Stamnas, of the NHDOT's Bureau of Bridge Design. "Everything is pre-made at a concrete casting facility, then shipped to the bridge site, assembled, and the reinforced connections grouted and sealed. Only a handful of similar bridge replacement projects have been completed throughout the country, and this one is unique because it's totally pre-cast concrete."

This bridge replacement project is allowing Internet users to track the progress of construction on the NHDOT website (www.nhdot.com and click on "Project Showcase" in the left-hand margin). Additional project information is provided on the website and daily construction activities can also be viewed as a slide presentation.

R.M. Piper Inc. of Plymouth, New Hampshire is the general contractor for the \$1,047,000 project.